

N.Y. to interview as a staff psychiatrist. Public and private medicine, particularly on the East Coast, was by the early 1970's dotted with refugees from the island nation just off Key West. It was the kind of network that brought Dr. Cossio back together with Arias, a former supervisor at the military hospital in Havana and at the big psychiatric hospital there.

For nearly three years, Dr. Cossio crammed for the qualifying exam for foreign physicians (he had to learn English first), which he passed on the first try. Carmen, his high school sweetheart, supported the family in New York as a pharmacist (she held a doctorate from the University of Havana). When Arias, a former partner in private practice in Cuba, had an opening on the staff here, he called his old friend.

"Our struggle to leave Communist Cuba was extremely difficult," says Dr. Cossio with a shake of the head. "I look back now at what we went through, and it could easily be the theme of a mini-series, I tell you."

Before signing on at NEFSH, Dr. Cossio had to re-take a residency program in psychiatry at a New York mental hospital. The move to Macclenny was also the family's first experience in a rural area.

The boys, Miguel, Eduardo, Carlos and Roberto, were still a bit weak in English but assimilated well into Baker County schools. They mirrored the friendly demeanor of their parents and were excellent athletes. Miguel was an all conference pick and most valuable player on the Wildcat baseball squad, and along with his brothers lettered in several sports.

All the boys went on to college and medical school, and now practice in Georgia: Micky and Eddie as internists in Madison, Carlos an endocrinologist in Athens and Robert a pediatrician in Savannah.

They all have the first name of their father, as do the male grandsons, because Dr. Cossio wants to preserve the memory of his father and grandfather, who he calls "men of strong principles."

"They fought for freedom and independence of our motherland. In September, 1933, my father was a prominent officer in the Cuban Army and died in a battle in Havana during a rebellion.

"He lost his life fighting in defense of national principles. For my ancestors, like for us, freedom has been as important as oxygen. This is the basic reason we are in the USA."

Carmen and Miguel plan to keep their licenses current though are unsure now how active they will remain in their professions. Several years ago, the 69-year-old Miguel gave into the pleas of his sons and underwent a multiple heart bypass operation at Emory University in Atlanta, and credits it with renewed energy that he plans to devote to politics and his beloved Cuban clubs in Jacksonville and Miami. It was through the Republican Party in South Florida that Dr. Cossio became involved last year in the Jeb Bush campaign for governor.

"Rest? I doubt it. I cannot imagine my husband sitting at home watching TV day and night. He has always been very active," observes Carmen.

Along with politics and keeping up with his pals, Dr. Cossio plans to see more of his sons and the couple's eight grandchildren (another is expected this spring). He may even start on his memoirs.

One of the plaques last Thursday was presented by Dr. Alfredo Romeu, a childhood friend with a similar refugee background who also plans to leave NEFSH along with his physician wife Esther in the near future. They are near the last of a line of Cuban born doctors that have worked at NEFSH in its three and a half decades of existence.

Like most of his contemporaries, Dr. Bossio yearns for the day that Cuba tosses

off the Castro regime and rejoins the American community of nations.

"Before we die, we would like to see freedom and prosperity in Cuba again. We still have close relatives and friends there, living in horrible slavery and poverty.

"As soon as that happens, we can say, 'God, thanks again for everything, now we can rest.' For us it will then be time to face eternity. Our mission on Earth has been accomplished."

Words from the mouth of someone who truly knows what it takes to get there.

#### HONORING REVEREND JUAN MARTINEZ FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 12, 1998*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise to pay tribute to the Reverend Juan Martinez of New Haven, Connecticut. Reverend Martinez has spent 36 years developing and enriching his community, ministering to our souls and nourishing our spirits.

Reverend Martinez arrived in the United States from his native Puerto Rico in 1950, and served his country in our military in the Korean War. Upon his arrival in New Haven in 1962, he established the Pentecostal Church Door of Salvation. Through this church, Reverend Martinez has selflessly devoted himself to the Hispanic community and to the entire city of New Haven. He is the eldest Hispanic minister pastoring in New Haven, and serves as Executive Treasurer for the International Latin American Council of Churches. He is the founder of the New Life Corporation Housing Development Corporation, and is the co-founder of the Asociacion Ministerial Evangelica Hispanica de New Haven.

Reverend Martinez has contributed so much to our New Haven that it is difficult to know how to begin to describe his dedication and service. He embodies the values of commitment to family and dedication to neighbors, and is a role model to us all. He is a powerful voice of justice and equality for the Hispanic community, and therefore for our city. He has worked with four mayors of New Haven to improve housing for the needy. He has organized an annual food drive, and founded a community youth and children's program which serves over 120 children, nurturing their minds, enriching their spirits, and giving them a safe place to play and learn.

For 36 years, Reverend Martinez has been a force in his community for all that is right and good. It is with great pride and honor that I join with his family, friends, and community to say thank you and congratulations.

#### TRIBUTE TO HON. DAN SCHAEFER

#### HON. JOE SKEEN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 12, 1998*

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special recognition to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. DAN SCHAEFER) who is retiring from Congress at the end of the 105th Congressional session.

I am honored and pleased to have served with DAN SCHAEFER throughout my tenure in the House of Representatives. Working together, we have served as Members of the minority and majority party in Congress and have always held principle over politics.

We are going to miss Mr. SCHAEFER next session. Throughout his distinguished career in the House, he has served his constituents from Colorado and the United States with honor and distinction.

DAN will be remembered here for many notable legislative accomplishments. Passing the Federal Facilities Compliance Act ensured that those of us with Federal facilities in our districts received the same level of environmental protection as everyone else in the country. He was and is a major player in helping us in New Mexico streamline the bureaucratic process to get the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant up and running—and while we're still not there yet, we're a lot closer today because of DAN SCHAEFER's efforts and I look forward to riding shotgun on that first truck with him.

Mr. SCHAEFER also helped spark the national debate on reforming our nation's tax code. His legislation to eliminate income tax raised a lot of eyebrows, but also raised the national awareness of the mess our tax system is in. I also recall that DAN was talking about a balanced budget long before the majority of our colleagues in Congress. His balanced budget legislation, introduced in the 103rd Congress, was the blueprint for many subsequent bills, and saw its fulfillment in the balanced budget act passed by this Congress.

While I have just scratched the surface of DAN's distinguished career, it is a pretty impressive list of accomplishments. Just as impressive, though, has been DAN's non-legislative accomplishments. As manager of the Republican baseball team, he turned the event from a back-alley pepper game into a major-league success, to the point where the game now gets nationwide radio and TV coverage, and helps support a number of worthy charities in the Washington area. I know I've enjoyed his participation in the Western Caucus and the Wild Turkey Club, where Members facing similar problems and with similar constituencies are able to work through the difficult issues facing Congress in a sober and thought-provoking atmosphere. While Congress as an institution will certainly be poorer without DAN's presence, I also know that many Members will suffer a personal loss from his retirement as well.

In closing, I sincerely wish DAN SCHAEFER and his family all the best and look forward to the day the Colorado Rockies name him as their manager. Good luck and God bless you DAN, we'll miss you around here.

#### TRIBUTE TO ART RYNearSON, SENIOR LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

#### HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 12, 1998*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my warmest thanks to Art Rynearson, Senior Legislative Counsel for the office of the Senate Legislative Counsel, for his outstanding work on the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998. The International Religious

Freedom Act was an extraordinary endeavor, not only in the comprehensive nature of the measure itself, but in the highly unusual bicameral, bipartisan effort which led to unanimous passage by the 105th Congress. Together with the office of Senator Don Nickles, who introduced the measure, my office worked closely with other committed House and Senate staff to draft this bill. For more than a year, Art Rynearson shared in these long, demanding hours of effort. His expert counsel, unrelenting thoroughness, and countless hours of dedicated hard work shaped this bill into a measure of which we can be proud for the rest of our lives. My Rynearson's commitment and professionalism have helped bring hope to millions of people around the world who suffer terrible persecution for the simple practice of their faith. He well deserves our heartfelt commendation on their behalf.

TRIBUTE TO VITA BITE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS EXPERT AT THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my warmest thanks to Vita Bite, Foreign Affairs Expert at the Congressional Research Service, for her invaluable input into the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998. As part of a bicameral, bipartisan group of offices working together on this bill, my staff worked closely with Ms. Bite for more than a year as this Act was drafted. Ms. Bite provided expert counsel, including critical background on United States human rights laws and bureaucratic and administrative issues related to the bill. She was quick to provide research and advice, and was always gracious and ready to advise. She and her colleagues have spent many long hours analyzing this Act as it took shape. The International Religious Freedom Act, which passed the Senate and House unanimously this Congress, is designed to help millions of religious believers suffering for their faith around the world. Ms. Bite's expert counsel helped shape effective, wise parameters for this landmark piece of legislation, and she deserves our heartfelt thanks.

TRIBUTE TO JEANNE GRIMMETT, LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY AT THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my warmest thanks to Jeanne Grimmer, Legislative Attorney in the American Law Division of the Congressional Research Service. As part of a bicameral, bipartisan group of offices working together on this bill, my staff worked closely with Ms. Grimmer for more than a year as this Act was drafted. She was quick to provide research and advice, and was always ready to advise. Ms. Grimmer provided extensive legal research and background in many areas, including trade and environmental law, precedents and parameters in United States and international law, and matters pertaining to constitutional questions. Her expertise proved invaluable as we sought to draft wise, effective legislations. She and her colleagues have spent many long hours analyzing this Act as it took shape. The International Religious Freedom Act, which passed the Senate and House unanimously this Congress, is designed to help millions of religious believers suffering for their faith around the world. Ms. Grimmer's expert counsel helped us frame effective, wise parameters for this landmark piece of legislation, and she deserves our heartfelt thanks.

TRIBUTE TO DIANNE RENNACK, FOREIGN AFFAIRS EXPERT AT THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my warmest thanks to Dianne Rennack, Foreign

Affairs Expert at the Congressional Research Service, for her invaluable input into the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998. As part of a bicameral, bipartisan group of offices working together on this bill, my staff worked closely with Ms. Rennack for more than a year as this Act was drafted. She was quick to provide research and advice, and was always gracious and ready to advise. Ms. Rennack provided expert counsel, including critical background on United States sanctions laws and related bureaucratic and administrative issues. She and her colleagues have spent many long hours analyzing this Act as it took shape. The International Religious Freedom Act, which passed the Senate and House unanimously this Congress, is designed to help millions of religious believers suffering for their faith around the world. Ms. Rennack's expert counsel helped us shape effective, wise parameters for this landmark piece of legislation, and she deserves our heartfelt thanks.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY EIG, LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY AT THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my warmest thanks to Larry Eig, Legislative Attorney in the American Law Division of the Congressional Research Service. As part of a bicameral, bipartisan group of offices working together on this bill, my staff worked closely with Mr. Eig for more than a year as this Act was drafted. He was quick to provide research and advice, and was always gracious and ready to advise. Mr. Eig provided extensive legal research and background in many areas, including United States immigration law, analysis and precedents for legal effects of provisions in the bill, and matters pertaining to constitutional questions. His expertise proved invaluable as we sought to draft wise, effective legislation. Mr. Eig and his colleagues have spent many long hours analyzing this Act as it took shape. The International Religious Freedom Act, which passed the Senate and House unanimously this Congress, is designed to help millions of religious believers suffering for their faith around the world. Mr. Eig's expert counsel helped us frame effective, wise parameters for this landmark piece of legislation, and he deserves our heartfelt thanks.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE VIALET, REFUGEE AFFAIRS EXPERT AT THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my warm thanks to Joyce Vialet, Expert on Refugee Affairs for the Congressional Research Service, for her assistance with the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998. As part of a bicameral, bipartisan group of offices working together on this bill, my staff worked closely with Ms. Vialet. She was quick to provide research and advice, and was always gracious and ready to advise. Ms. Vialet provided extensive background on refugee matters, and her expertise helped us draft wise, effective legislation. The International Religious Freedom Act, which passed the Senate and House unanimously this Congress, is designed to help millions of religious believers suffering for their faith around the world. Ms. Vialet's expert counsel helped us frame effective, wise parameters for this landmark piece of legislation, and she deserves our warmest thanks.

A TRIBUTE TO R.C. SMITH

**HON. GLENN POSHARD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 12, 1998*

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my constituent and dear friend, Mr. R.C. Smith of Long Creek, Illinois who is retiring from the Macon County Board with 18 years of service. This is only a fraction of his 30 years of public service and dedication, but he will be truly missed on the county board. On this year after 30 years of public service. On November 12th, several area state legislators will be honoring him with a special presentation at his last County Board meeting.

I have known R.C. since I have been involved in politics. He has been a loyal employee to the Wabash, Norfolk and Western and Norfolk-Southern Railroad for nearly 39 years. He served as Executive Director of the Decatur Area Labor Management Committee for 8 years. At the same time, R.C. has remained focused on his commitment to the people of Illinois through his local political involvement. He was first elected as Assistant Long Creek Township Supervisor in 1961, and has served and been reelected on the Macon County Board of Supervisors for 10 years.

Wanting to do even more for Macon County, R.C. decided to run for Macon County Board in 1980 and has been reelected ever since by his constituents. In fact, his colleagues elected R.C. as Chairman in 1985 and he has served as Vice Chairman of the Board for the past 10 years. In addition, he was elected last year as Long Creek Township Clerk. Both his colleagues and his constituents recognize R.C.'s commitment to his community, and the strong leadership skills he provides the Board and county. This is evident in the fact that they have faithfully awarded him these important positions, and R.C. has served with the highest level of integrity.

Moreover, R.C. has devoted a great deal of his time to the Macon County community. He has served on the Macon County Mental Health 708 Board and has been Democratic Precinct Committeeman for 40 years. As a devout Christian, R.C. has served in the Adult Men's Sunday School teacher program for over 35 years, and is a Deacon for his church.

It has been a pleasure knowing R.C. Smith as a local community leader. He has been a role model of commitment and dedication while serving on the county board. It has been an honor to serve in Congress as his representative, and I wish him all the best in the future. Mr. Speaker, please recognize R.C. Smith for his loyalty to Macon County and the excellent leadership he has provided.

TRIBUTE TO JANE HARMAN

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 12, 1998*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend and valued colleague, JANE HARMAN, whose distinguished career in the House of Representatives will come to a close with the end of the 105th Congress.